

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3695
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2000
DIALOGUES WITH MILITANT ORGANISATIONS .
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned `Governments olive branch may not work in Kashmir` appearing in the Times of India dated April 6. 2000;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government propose to start dialogues with the militants;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the reaction of the public/militant organisations thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI C.H. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) : Yes Sir, the Government is aware of the media reports.

(b) to (e) : During his visit to J&K on 26-27 July, 1997, the then Prime Minister had made an appeal to the misguided youth of the State, who have joined the militant ranks, to give up their guns, and said that the Government was prepared to have unconditional talks with them, to enable them to rejoin the mainstream. The Government is committed to the said offer of talks, with in the constitutional frame work.